Give Longer Answers: Unit 1

Overview

Here is a handout that will help your students practice the art of giving longer answers (Golden Rule 2). The task is quite simple: students need to rewrite a dialog containing too many questions and short answers by using only two questions with two long answers. This exercise will help make the point that when speaking English, students need to give longer answers in order to make a better impression. This does not come naturally to many Japanese students because of a natural interference from the typical Japanese style of conversation, which is more tolerant of short answers. The trick to this task is to combine several short answers into two long answers using the vocabulary provided as a guide. There are different ways to go about this, and the students can decide how they want to go about it. Encourage them to add extra *Reacting* expressions and improve the *Closing* in order to increase the friendliness quotient.

The final page of this file contains a model answer which you can use to help mark their papers. Remember that this is just one way of going about it; there are other possibilities. Alternatively, you could provide a photocopy of the model and have students compare their version with it.

If you would like a modifiable copy of this handout (.docx format), please get in touch and I can email it to you: talandis@gmail.com

Good luck! Let me know how it goes.

Jerry Talandis Jr.

"Give longer answers by adding one or two extra pieces of information." 質問をされたら、1 つか 2 つは聞かれていない情報も追加して答えよう。

-Golden Rule 2

Step 1: Read this conversation between Phil and Kenji. Kenji is giving short answers, so Phil has to ask many questions in order to move the conversation forward.

	30 Fill has to ask many questions in order to move the conversation forward.
Phil:	Where are you from?
Kenji:	Tokyo.
Phil:	I see. Whereabouts in Tokyo?
Kenji:	In Akabane.
Phil:	Uh huh. Where is that?
Kenji:	Near Ikebukuro.
Phil:	I see. Do you live in Akabane now?
Kenji:	No, I live in Kyoto Prefecture.
Phil:	Oh. Where in Kyoto Prefecture?
Kenji:	In Uji.
Phil:	Oh, Uji. Right Uh What's your major?
Kenji:	Physics.
Phil:	Physics? Sounds difficult.
Kenji:	
Phil:	Ah, are you a 1st year student?
Kenji:	Yes.
Phil:	Um, what faculty are you in?
Kenji:	Science.
Phil:	Okay! Well, I gotta run. See you later.
Kenji:	Bye.
Step 2	: Now, rewrite the conversation so that Phil asks only two questions, and Kenji gives two long answers. Add some Reacting expressions and a better Closing to make a friendlier feeling.
Phil:	
V !!.	
Kenji:	

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(MODEL ANSWER)

Phil: So, Kenji, where are you from?

Kenji: I'm from Tokyo, from Akabane. It's near Ikebukuro.

Phil: Oh, I see.

Kenji: But I live in Kyoto Prefecture now, in Uji.

Phil: Oh, Uji. Right! So, what's your major?

Kenji: I'm majoring in physics.

Phil: Oh really? Wow, that sounds difficult!

Kenji: Yeah, but it's interesting. I'm a first year student in the Science faculty.

Phil: Okay! Well, I gotta run. It was nice meeting you!

Kenji: Good to meet you, too. See you later!

Phil: Take care! Good luck with your studies.

Kenji: Thanks! You, too.